



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL COMMAND
2050 WORTH ROAD
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS 78234-6000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

(S): 1 NOV 2005

MCOP-P

26 JULY 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, MEDCOM Major Subordinate Commands (MSC)

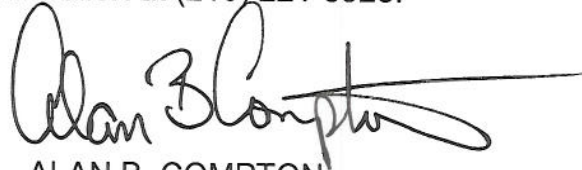
SUBJECT: NiCad Battery Exchange for Powered Air Purifying Respirators (PAPR)

1. Reference: 3M Battery Upgrade Program.
2. The 3M has recently introduced an improved battery and charging system designed to replace the 520-01-15R01 battery that was fielded with some 1400 PAPR systems currently in use throughout the MEDCOM. As a service to 3M customers, the company is offering a no cost replacement program for the battery. The program is outlined in enclosure 1 and at the web site www.3m.com/battery. The estimated replacement cost for the known quantity of NiCad batteries within the MEDCOM is roughly 1.1 million dollars, making this no-cost battery exchange program a high priority imperative.
3. MEDCOM RMCs and Major Subordinate Commands are required to immediately begin the process of exchanging the current 520-01-15R01 battery components to the PAPR. Broad discretion is provided for implementation. RMCs may decentralize down to the MTF, activity, or hand receipt holder level using 3M's online or fax method of exchange, (see enclosure 1). The 3M Company will ship new batteries prior to receiving old batteries and will pay all shipping costs. Please note that only serviceable/operable batteries will be replaced.
4. The potential cost savings offered by this program is significant. Completion of the exchange process will be reported. MEDCOM RMCs and MSCs will use the spreadsheet (enclosure 2) to report to MEDCOM Logistics NLT 1 November 2005. This spreadsheet indicates quantities initially procured by MEDCOM. Use it to report additional local procurement, of PAPRS, current distribution and exchanges. The 3M Company battery exchange program runs through November 2005. The potential requirement to replace unserviceable batteries at cost of \$420 per battery with charger after that date mandates that we complete the exchange promptly.

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5. The primary logistics POC is Mr. Lorenzo Garza at (210) 221-8150. MEDCOM Plans - Homeland Security POC is Mr David Fallert at (210) 221-8928.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan B. Compton", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

ALAN B. COMPTON
DAC
Chief, Plans Division

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